



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Office of Communications

703-248-5003

FAX 703-248-5146

publicinfo@ci.falls-church.va.us

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT:

Dionne C. Williams

(703) 248-5101

Department of Justice Sentences Two Suspects Involved in 1997 Murder

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – On Friday, February 18, 2005 Le, Cuong Gia appeared in United States District Court, Alexandria, Virginia before the Honorable Judge T.S. Ellis, III, and was sentenced to three concurrent and two consecutive life prison terms without parole and concurrent prison sentences of 20 years, 10 years, and 3 years on charges of racketeering, conspiracy to commit murder, two counts of murder in aid of racketeering, attempted murder in aid of racketeering, assault with a dangerous weapon in aid of racketeering, conspiracy to commit robbery, and two counts of use of a firearm resulting in murder.

Le had previously pled guilty to these charges on October 8, 2004. At the time of his plea, Le also admitted to his role in a number of other violent crimes including his participation in the January 26, 1997 execution-style and gang-related slaying of Nguyen, Long Hung at the Hai Au Pool Hall in the City of Falls Church. The life sentences result from Le's role in the May 13, 2001 shootings at the Majestic Restaurant in Fairfax County, Virginia, which resulted in the deaths of two individuals and the wounding of two others. At the time of the shooting, Le was the leader of an Asian gang known as "OPB".

Le fled Northern Virginia after the shooting and was arrested in July 2003 by U. S. Marshals near Seattle, Washington.

On Friday, February 11th, 2005 Chau, Lam Nguyen appeared in United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia before the Honorable Judge Claude M. Hilton and was sentenced to 235 months, or 19 and a half years, in federal prison on one count of murder in the course of a firearms offense for his role in the 1997 execution-style and gang-related slaying of Nguyen, Long Hung inside the Hai Au Pool Hall at the Eden Shopping Center in the City of Falls Church.

The case is one of several related cases currently under investigation for the past two years by federal, state, and local authorities involving Asian organized crime and gang activity and being prosecuted by the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Virginia. During the course of the initial investigation and subsequent federal investigation, evidence developed linking Chau to the murder. He was indicted by a federal grand jury and arrested on March 11, 2004 in Cary, North Carolina without incident by members of the Asian Task Force, and with the assistance of the FBI's Violent Crimes Task Force in Raleigh, N.C. Chau was returned to Virginia the same day.

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